

Veterinarians at Cornell University estimate that two days of missed milkings will result in an average loss in milk production of ten percent for the remainder of the lactation cycle. The situation is analogous to damages to fruit trees, which suffer production losses in the months—or years—following a storm, in addition to the initial losses suffered at the time of the storm.

Diminished milk production losses will greatly surpass the value of milk dumped at the time of the storm. For example, in New York, the value of milk dumped in the days immediately following the storm is estimated to be \$1 million. The New York Farm Service Agency projects \$12 million in losses due to diminished milk production. Dairy farmers in Vermont and Maine will be similarly affected.

The amount provided for dairy and livestock in the Administration's request—\$4 million—drastically under represents the amount of damage. The \$10 million which this amendment will provide for dairy and livestock farmers is based on the best estimates of damages available from the Farm Service Agencies of the affected states. Through this amendment, we will be able to compensate dairy farmers for 30 percent of the value of their demonstrated losses—the same proportion provided to other farmers under previous disaster relief programs.

The farmers of the Northeast dairy industry do not have sufficient means of emergency support outside of Federal aid. Many farmers were shocked to find that their private insurance policies, which do cover losses sustained due to fires, floods, and other natural disasters, will not cover damages sustained during ice storms. The states of New York, Maine and Vermont are offering limited assistance to their dairy farmers, but additional Federal aid is sorely needed.

Mr. President, I thank Senator STEVENS and Senator BYRD for their assistance with this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2109) was agreed to.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 2646

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote scheduled to occur at 5:30 this evening be postponed to occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader after notification of the Democratic leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, to notify all Members, we are working and get-

ting very close, I think, to a unanimous-consent agreement being possible with regard to the education savings account issue, and other issues, but we are not quite there. So we think we can keep working on it and reach agreement hopefully early in the morning.

Also, I remind the Senate that we do have this very important opportunity to hear from our former distinguished majority leader, Mike Mansfield, at 6 o'clock. I would like for us to be able to start that right on time in deference to his agreeing to be with us. I urge all my colleagues to come to this first in a series of lectures from former majority leaders and Vice Presidents. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 7:30 p.m. at the conclusion of the 10-minute remarks by Senator WELLSTONE.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Reserving the right to object, and I will not, but I would be pleased, when we go back in session tomorrow, to speak. So you can go ahead, as long as I have consent I will be able to speak for 10 minutes when we go back in.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, I would like to be recognized following the remarks made by the distinguished majority leader and then preceding whatever remarks the Senator from Minnesota would care to make.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if the Senator would yield, I think that is a very generous offer by the Senator from Minnesota. We will make sure you get the 10 minutes tomorrow, hopefully, I guess, in the morning. That way we can recess before 6 o'clock and allow us to greet Senator Mansfield.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving—

Mr. WELLSTONE. If I could say, the understanding is I want a chance to speak before any vote on the IMF.

Mr. DASCHLE. Further reserving the right to object, just to clarify the proposal made by the majority leader, I would assume there would then be no more votes tonight.

Mr. LOTT. There will be no more votes when we come back in at 7:30, although we need to cooperate with the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member to try to identify those amendments that will have to be disposed of, will have to be voted on. I urge, again, all Senators—I am not asking for amendments, but I am asking for cooperation in getting a limited number or identifying those amendments we are going to have to have a vote on so we can complete action on this emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, again reserving the right to object for purposes of clarification, is it now the understanding of the Chair that I will be recognized following the remarks made by the majority leader?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Would the Senator just yield to me for one question of the majority leader?

We have a series of amendments, when we come back in, that have been cleared and that we are in the process of clearing. I just want to notify all Senators, we will be working on amendments to the bill after the presentation of the former majority leader. So in particular, we wanted to stress the needs for FEMA and CDBG amounts that are part of the request.

Ms. MIKULSKI. We want to debate them tonight?

Mr. STEVENS. No. We want to see if there is objection. So if anyone has any objection, I would like to know before we go out. Thank you.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, in view of one development that just occurred—and I think we will have the answer in just 2 or 3 minutes—I want to withhold that unanimous-consent request that we stand in recess until 7:30. I expect to renew that in 2 or 3 minutes. But I would like to hold it at this time; and, therefore, the Senator could be recognized in his own right to speak if that is what he has in mind.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I have indicated to the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee my frustration with the amendment process. The majority leader has noted the need for cooperation.

I think we have been extraordinarily cooperative. I have encouraged my colleagues to withhold on an array of amendments that were proposed. Now we have an array of amendments here, including one now by the Senator from North Carolina having to do with school construction. If we want to get into a lot of these extraneous amendments, I have a whole pot load of amendments over here that we will begin offering.

So, Mr. President, I call for the regular order under these circumstances so we can go back to the business at hand. The business at hand is to deal with the IMF amendment and to get on with resolving these matters once and for all so we can finally come to closure on this legislation. I call for the regular order and hope that at long last we can begin dealing with these issues one by one.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The regular order is amendment No. 2100.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 7:30 p.m.

There being no objection, at 5:40 p.m., the Senate recessed until 7:30;